

City of Rockvilles FISCAL YEAR 2022ANNUAL REPORT

• JULY 1, 2021 TO JUNE 30, 2022 •



From left to right: Rockville Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton and councilmembers Monique Ashton, Beryl L. Feinberg, David Myles and Mark Pierzchala.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CITY MANAGER

I am pleased to report in these pages the City of Rockville's progress on some of the community's highest priorities. While this has been another challenging year for us due to the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, your city government, under the leadership of the Mayor and Council, is making positive strides forward in our commitment to serving you.

Despite the pandemic's twists and turns, this fiscal year has been one of accomplishments, reflected here in this 2022 Annual

Report, covering progress made by the city from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. I could not be prouder of how Rockville's staff and employees have been adaptive and innovative, going above and beyond during this time.

Here are some highlights of how we advanced key initiatives and priorities of the Mayor and Council:

- The Mayor and Council adopted Rockville's new **Comprehensive Plan** the final step in a multi-year Rockville 2040 process that will guide Rockville's growth over the next two decades.
- The Mayor and Council adopted Rockville's first **Climate Action Plan** in January. The plan charts an ambitious course for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50% below 2005 levels by 2030, and carbon neutrality by mid-century, and sets forth 26 community actions and 16 city actions to reduce climate-warming pollution and foster resilience, especially for the city's most vulnerable neighborhoods.
- The city entered the second year of the Vision Zero Action Plan with projects to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety to reach the Vision Zero goal of zero deaths and serious injuries by 2030, and welcomed aboard a new Vision Zero coordinator.
- The Mayor and Council amended the city's Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit program in December to protect and increase Rockville's affordable housing supply.
- Rockville **City Hall reopened** in March, having been closed since March 14, 2020, to protect the health of Rockville employees and the public, and prevent the spread of COVID-19 throughout the pandemic.
- Emergency relief was provided following severe flooding caused by the remnants of Hurricane Ida, offering assistance directly to impacted residents, and the Mayor and Council began a discussion of a citywide Flood Resiliency Master Plan to mitigate the impacts of flooding caused by more frequent and extreme storms.
- A **road-diet project** on Maryland Avenue was completed, with bike lanes along the section between Great Falls Road and South Washington Street, which has led to a significant decrease in speeding along the road.
- Two new commissions were established by the Mayor and Council to ensure the city's commitment to education and youth.
- We welcomed onboard Tyree Davis IV, Rockville's first-ever advisor to the city manager for justice, equity, diversity and inclusion. Davis's team will advise city officials while advancing its social justice, diversity, equity, inclusivity and human rights agenda, initiatives and policies.

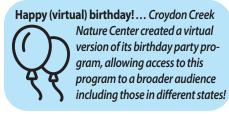
Please remember, we are here to work for you. That is our honor and privilege. On behalf of the Mayor and Council, and city staff, I thank you for your passion and support for our community. Feel free to reach out if we can be of service to you, or if you have ideas and suggestions for us.

As ever, I wish you and your family good health and happiness.

Rob DiSpirito,
Rockville City Manager

ROCKVILLE IS ... Continuing City Government and Safely Providing Services

Rockville **City Hall reopened** in March, having been closed since March 14, 2020, to protect the health of Rockville employees and the public, and prevent the spread of COVID-19. City government continued operations and provided services, including online, throughout the pandemic.



8,700

... Virtual meetings
— more than 490,000
minutes-worth —
using Cisco Webex.

66 Despite all the challenges, we continue to focus on the importance of community policing and strengthening community relationships by demonstrating accountability and transparency. All the Department's accomplishments are a direct result of many people working together to do things right. Exceptional personnel and community support are vital to the Department's continued growth and success.

— Chief Victor V. Brito, in a message introducing the Rockville City Police Department's Annual Crime Report.



25,000

ROCKVILLE IS ... Playing Together

... Hometown Holidays attendees visited the music and food festival's new home at RedGate Park. This location offered more space to entertain the community and showcase all that RedGate Park has to offer. The event featured two stages of music, the Taste of Rockville, kids activities and more.



1,000

... runners took part in the Suds and Soles 5K race.





\$26,000 ... raised by Hometown Holiday's Taste of

Holiday's Taste of Rockville, which benefits the Rockville Chamber of Commerce and

Community Reach of Montgomery County.



56,000 ... visitors to the weekly

farmers market.

28,915

... registered participants in Recreation and Parks classes.



... minimonies hosted at Glenview Mansion. The new "in" wedding trend, minimonies are small-scale outdoor weddings for 10-25 people.



... people attended the Memorial Day Parade in Rockville Town Center, which offered families the chance to gather as a community and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

ROCKVILLE IS ... Playing Together continued

200 + ... in-person, indoor programs hosted by Croydon Creek Nature Center.



4,028 adults 4,961 youth

... took part

in city sports

programs.

1,300 + ... took part in the first full season of the



the Rockville Concert Band. To honor the milestone, the city and band commissioned composer Johan de Meij to

write "The Year 2020," which was performed at the band's 65th anniversary concert. The composition honors lives lost to COVID-19 and offers hope for the future.

Let's Play Futsal ... Soccer/ futsal courts replaced the old skate park at Welsh Park. New soccer goals were erected at Maryvale Park. Additional dedicated soccer spaces have been a priority for the community.

ROCKVILLE IS ... Pursuing Excellence, Receiving Accolades

Governor's Crime Prevention Award ...



received by the Rockville City Police Department for its comprehensive crimeprevention programs.

One city police officer was promoted to sergeant; **one** to lieutenant.

10 ... RCPD officers received Officer of the Month awards for saving lives and providing

3 ... RCPD employees celebrated 20-plus years of service.

7 ... RCPD officers were honored and awarded during the annual Rockville Public Safety Awards.

4.5/5 ... The rating given by customers of the Department of Community Planning and Development Services.

66 We work all over the country. I deal with many jurisdictions in many states. The level of service you folks have provided is exceptional and definitely is not the norm for our industry. It speaks to your integrity and dedication that you would get as involved as you have, especially given the unusual circumstances we find ourselves in due to COVID. 59 — A customer accolade for the

Department of Community Planning and Development Services.

Rockville's Finance Department received **Government Finance Officers Association**

awards: Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting EXCELLENT for the FY 2021 Annual *** Comprehensive Financial Report; Popular Annual

Financial Reporting Award for the FY 2021 Popular Annual Financial Report; and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the FY 2022 Adopted Operating **Budget and Capital Improvements Program**

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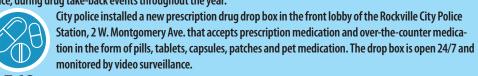
ROCKVILLE IS ... Creating and Maintaining Safe and Livable Neighborhoods

15,877 ... calls for service responded to by city police.

2,368 ... animal licenses issued.

20 + ... National Night Out celebrations in the City of Rockville, hosted by the Rockville City Police Department.

 $350\ldots$ pounds of prescription drugs collected by city police, with help from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, during drug take-back events throughout the year.



1,569 ... animal control calls responded to by city police.

The Rockville City Police Department implemented the Georgetown University Innovative Policing Program's Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement Project training, which enables the agency to grow and hold of-

RCPD continued to regularly attend neighborhood meetings and events, and hosted Coffee with Cops socials

Bryan Barnett-Woods joined the Traffic and Transportation Division in the city's Department of Public Works as a principal transportation planner/pedestrian and bicycle coordinator. He is also Rockville's **new Vision Zero coordinator**.

The second year of the **Vision Zero Action Plan** included projects to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety to reach the Vision Zero goal of zero deaths and serious injuries by 2030. Projects included: installation of flashing beacons at Wootton High School; nine new crosswalks and edge lines on West Edmonston Drive between Wootton and Cabin John parkways; and improving safety at the intersection of West Edmonston Drive and Cabin John Parkway.

The first draft of the **Pedestrian Master Plan**, developed in collaboration with the Rockville Pedestrian Advocacy Committee, was substantially completed.

ROCKVILLE IS ... Maintaining City Infrastructure and Building for the Future

2,010 ... regulatory compliance inspections conducted at: stormwater facilities (672); construction sites (643); food service establishments (187); backflow inspection reports (413); and commercial stormwater pollution prevention inspections (95). Issued 10 enforcement actions and collected \$12,000 in penalties.

 $\$450,\!000\dots$ in grant funding for light-emitting diode, or LED, streetlight conversions. A grant agreement will be developed in early Fiscal Year 2023.

\$60,000 ... grant amount from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments to study the compete street project on Monroe and Fleet streets.

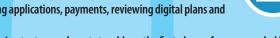
\$50,000 ... grant amount from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments to study the feasibility of designing protected intersections on Beall Avenue, at Maryland Avenue and MD 355.

A New Destination, A New District Recognized: A new destination in the city — the Rock East District gathers Rockville's artists, professionals, makers and tradespeople together into a defined geographic location. In a plan initiated by Rockville Economic Development, Inc., the district, which runs along East Gude Drive from Frederick Road to Norbeck Drive, includes more than **60 area businesses**, or "makers and traders," as well as parks and trails. Businesses represented in the new district include breweries, a distillery, restaurants, trails, sports, retail, auto repair and home improvement.

ROCKVILLE IS ... Moving FAST (Faster, Accountable, Smarter and Transparent)

Key process improvements from the FAST project improved the city's development and permitting

1. Launching MyGovernmentOnline as a one-stop shop for comprehensive online permitting and development plan review, including applications, payments, reviewing digital plans and



- 2. The Mayor and Council's adoption of zoning text amendments to address the first phase of recommended FAST initiatives, to make the city more attractive to business investments and, in particular, life-sciences investors.
- Launching the Compliance Engine, which will improve fire safety in the city through proactive compliance of firesafety equipment or devices in places of assembly.
- Facilitating the Mayor and Council's adoption of amendments to the zoning ordinance to implement Stonestreet Corridor Comprehensive Plan recommendations, which provide for redevelopment opportunities of underutilized properties near the Rockville Metro Station.
- Managing approvals for key development projects, including new residences at 16200 Frederick Road (which included annexation), 1800 Research Blvd. and Potomac Woods.
- . Managing building permits for construction of the Twinbrook Quarter project. These projects will create new residential and commercial development to attract new residents and support economic development.

Projects and More Projects!

- The Mayor and Council continued their opposition to plans for I-270 expansion under the state's I-495/I-270
- Conducted short-span **bridge inspections** and the inspection of the Truck Street pedestrian bridge.
- Capital Improvements Program projects design completed: Northeast Park stream restoration and retrofit; Croydon Creek/Calvin Park Tributary; water treatment plant bulk sodium hypochlorite project; and Phase 1
- Capital Improvements Program projects construction completed: Ritchie Parkway outfall repair stream restoration spot repair; Mt. Vernon stormwater management facility improvements; water treatment plant raw water infrastructure protection; sewer lining in sewer rehab and improvement; 1.4 miles of water mains at Beall Avenue, Glenmore Terrace, Elizabeth Avenue, Denfield Road and Dundee Road; and Rollins Park Apartments meter replacement pilot program for Hersey meter replacement.
- **Traffic signals upgraded** at Nelson and Mannakee streets and Wootton Parkway/Tower Oaks Boulevard. Completed construction of the road diet project on Maryland Avenue, with bike lanes along the section between Great Falls Road and South Washington Street.
- Completed the design for the East Middle Lane and North Washington Street road diet project, which is ready for construction in Fiscal Year 2023.
- Completed a **wayfinding study** that developed a plan for consistent signage in Rockville Town Center.
- The first major goal of the water main rehabilitation program was completed with the replacement of all fire

City of Rockvilles NRUAL REPORT











Projects and More Projects! continued . . .

Drug drop box in RCPD lobby

hydrants with less than 500 gallons per minute of water flow. More than 22 miles of water main have been replaced since Fiscal Year 2008.

- **Replaced** . . . Flooring, lighting and the kitchen's exhaust hood at Montrose Discovery Preschool, and heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, Croydon Nature Center and the press building at the water treatment plant.
- **Completed** ... Partial roof replacement at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre; design of the 50 Monroe St. elevator; upgrades to the Mayor and Council chambers, including paint, new handrails, a modified dais, relocated ramp, new light fixtures and a replaced carpet.

ROCKVILLE IS ... A Well-Planned City of Neighborhoods



20-Year Comprehensive Plan Adopted

The Mayor and Council adopted Rockville's new Comprehensive Plan — the final step in the multiyear Rockville 2040 process. The plan outlines the core philosophy that guides development, conservation and capital improvement projects to improve quality of life in the Rockville community during its 20-year time frame. Decisions are made on land-use issues and budget priorities and these decisions are

— The community-led mission created by Rockville 2040.

guided by the extent to which they correspond with the plan.

66 Rockville will be a vibrant, multicultural, and socioeconomically inclusive city with distinct neighborhoods that are supported by a strong local economy, a healthy natural environment, and a desirable quality of life founded on a responsive government.

The Mayor and Council **increased development fees across the board** by an average 2.5% to address increased expense from development-related city services and the cost of new efficiency-oriented technology. Building fees were last updated in 2018. Development fees have remained unchanged since 2011.

ROCKVILLE IS ... Taking Care of Our Community

5,000 ... COVID-19 test kits distributed to residents and city employees.

56... individual and citywide health and wellbeing challenges for city employees, with a focus on mental health and self-care during the pandemic.

\$19,509 ... in donations from you to the Rec Fund, which helps eligible families with financial assistance to be able to take part in programs and activities.

\$650,000 ... in grants received for playground equipment replacement, nutritious meals for seniors, renovation of Lincoln Park Community Center and Montrose Discovery Childcare, arts and culture programs, sports programs, fresh food from the Rockville Farmers Market, energy efficiency and community gardens.

 $1,999\dots$ city residents sought assistance and services for rental assistance, energy payment assistance, food insecurity and wellness through the Department of Housing and Community Development.

\$292,500 ... in American Rescue Plan Act funds used to establish Bank On Rockville, part of a nationwide effort among municipalities to connect low-income residents t<mark>o safe</mark> a<mark>nd aff</mark>ordable bank accounts, and boos<mark>t fina</mark>ncial literacy and capability.

1 ... low-income residents in financial crisis who were saved from eviction through the Bridge Rental Assistance Program and Rockville Emergency Assistance Program,

31 ... homeowners assisted in the purchase of a home through the Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit program, including with the purchases of 24 new townhomes.



A mandatory COVID-19 vaccination program was implemented for all employees.

The 2021 Holiday Drive raised more than \$88,900 in donations, including gift cards and books, to help those in need during the holiday season.

Preserving Affordable Housing The Mayor and Council amended the city's Moderately Priced Dwelling Unit program in December in an effo<mark>rt to increase Rockville's affo</mark>rdable housing <mark>supply. The expansion and</mark> preservation of affordable-housing opportunities in Rockville are among the Mayor and Council's top priorities.

Responding to Hurricane Ida Flooding In response to severe flooding caused by the remnants of Hurricane Ida (a historic storm that recorded 2.56 inches of rainfall in Rockville during the peak 30-minute period on Sept. 1), the city launched a flood-relief website that received 53 survey responses reporting flooding and private property damage, and 26 claims for a city flooding reimbursement program. City staff also responded to 71 drainage complaints due to storms by performing site visits and providing information on mitigation options. These observations will be used to support the development of a new Flood Resiliency Master Plan, which was approved in the FY 2<mark>023 b</mark>udget.

\$48,456 ... issued through a flood relief program to assist Rockville households that were most affected. This program is unique among municipalities i<mark>n the</mark> state of Maryland due to Rockville's <mark>ability t</mark>o offer direct assis-

ROCKVILLE IS . . . Helping the Community Care for Each Other



More than 10,900 volunteer hours were given back to the city's Recreation and Parks programs by

More than 560 Recreation and Parks opportunities in which volunteers gave back.

279 ... volunteers removed 167 bags of trash for cleaner waterways through the Adopt-a-Stream program.

 $\mathbf{656} \dots \text{volunteers took part in the Rockville Weed Warrior Program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays, removing non-section of the program over 35 public workdays over 35 publi$ native invasive plants from Rockville parks.

\$773,530 ... in grant awards to housing and social services providers and caregiver agencies that required assistance to continue serving Rockville residents.

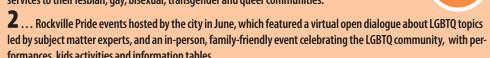
Counseling

- Therapeutic recreation served 80 youth.
- Mental health prevention workshops attended by 106
- Eighty-five students seen individually.
- Individual counseling for 23 students; group counseling
- Family case management for 47 families and 111 children.

 Served 37 students with 38 mentors from three elementary schools (Twinbrook, Meadow Hall and Beall). Students planted and harvested fruit and vegetables, took a trip to Croydon Creek Nature Center for a stream cleanup, and participated in a summer enrichment program.

Advocating for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

100/100 ... Perfect marks were garnered for a fifth year in a row by Rockville in the Human Rights Campaign's 2021 Municipal Equality Index, which measures how well municipalities provide services to their lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer communities.



formances, kids activities and information tables. **2,533** ... person increase in the city's Hispanic/Latino population **between 2010 and 2020**, according to the latest census data. The category of Hispanic/Latino, which is considered an ethnicity by the Census Bureau, increased

in Rockville from 14.3% of the city's population in 2010 to 16.9% in 2020. Mandatory **diversity**, **equity and inclusion training** was implemented for all city employees.

Tyree Davis IV joined the City of Rockville in May to help further the Mayor and Council's priorities of establishing equity and inclusion as shared values throughout the community and the City of Rockville organization. Davis' formal title is "Advisor to the City Manager for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion."

The city's Procurement Department expanded its minority, female, disabled outreach program to include veteran-owned businesses. The new program will now be called MFD-V: Minority, Female, Disabled, Veteran outreach.

A new vendor-connection portal now allows vendors to reach out to appropriate city departments with their product or service, which is especially helpful for the city's minority-, female-, disabled- and veteran-owned businesses.

The **Latino Youth Development Program** served 25 middle and high school students through enrichment, team building, mentoring, academic support and soccer.

The Human Rights and Human Services Advisory commissions of the City of Rockville launched a communitywide **survey** to assess the state of social justice, racism, bias and wellness in the city.

ROCKVILLE IS ... Pursuing Excellence, Receiving Accolades continued

Rockville Senior Center home maintenance coordinator Jerry Jones received a distinguished service citation at the 33rd Annual Rockville Public Safety Awards ceremony for heroic actions that saved a senior's life during a welfare check.

The city was recognized for a fourth time as a Sustainable Maryland community and earned the

program's Sustainability Champion designation, at the Maryland Municipal League's fall conference.

Best in Maryland ... award from the "Washingtonian Magazine," as well as Top Training Provider award

from the Red Cross, for the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center.



Park (where you can play pickleball — hence the paddle), respectively.

PLANT (People Loving and **Nurturing Trees) Award** from the Maryland Urban and Community Forest Committee.



ROCKVILLE IS ... Engaged, Efficient And Effective

18,520 ... tons of material collected by recycling and trash collection crews from nearly 14,107 customers, including

4,420 tons of recycling

3,233 tons of yard waste.

The Mayor and Council established three

- new commissions: • Charter Review Commission. The 11 members review the city's charter, which establishes the city's corporate limits and outlines how the city is organized and conducts business, such as holding elections, levying taxes, adopting ordinances
- and providing services. Education Commission. An 11-member commission to support the city's students, and maintain and grow collaborative relationships among the county's board of education, Montgomery County Public Schools, private and nonprofit schools, Montgomery College, parent-teacher associations, private and nonprofit school boards, home-school communities, and providers of early child care and education programs in the Rockville community.
- Youth Commission. Eleven members aged 16-21, identify, monitor and evaluate youth services, programs and activities offered in the city and surrounding areas, and develop recommendations for the Mayor and Council about programs, policies and legislation to promote the health and well-being of young adults.

New Hires and Positions

• The Rockville Mayor and Council appointed Virginia attorney Robert E. Dawson to become Rockville's new city attorney.

Stacey Webster, the city's deputy chief financial officer and a longtime member of Rockville's finance department, became the city's **chief financial officer/ director** of finance.

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New Hires and Positions

continued

- Danny Winborne became the **new dep**uty city clerk for the City of Rockville. He joined the city in late June 2021.
- Kathy Kirk-Dantzler, manager of the city's Rockville 11 television station, became the city's director of communication.

ROCKVILLE IS... A Great Place For Seniors

40 ... Although we contend it doesn't look a day over 20, the Rockville Senior Center hit the four-decade milestone and celebrated its anniversary in May.

1,921 ... active members of the Rockville Senior Center.



8,788 ... senior recreation and support programs.

10,678 ... senior meals provided.





13,049 ... bus rides for seniors.



ROCKVILLE IS... Blooming Beautiful



6 ... new plots expanded the Woottons Mill community gardens so more gardeners can test their green thumbs.

Major repairs were also made to the site's irrigation system.

59,300



66 Just a quick note to thank you for addressing the trees/bushes blocking parts of the Millennium Trail. I have ridden my bike along the trail and have noticed the great work you did clearing the parts of the trail that were obstructed. I appreciate your quick and attentive service. Thank you again. You put the Rock in Rockville.

— Accolades received by Recreation and Parks Department

7,000 ... square feet of a bamboo stand removed from next to Bullards Park.

341 ... hazardous trees removed to keep the community safe.

3,496

... trees pruned.

1,744 .. service requests fielded by the Parks and Services Division.



ROCKVILLE IS ... Fiscally Responsible

The city's **bond rating is AAA/Aaa**, testament to its fiscal leadership, which saves Rockville taxpayers money by allowing the city to borrow at the lowest possible interest rates.

1995 ... the last year Rockville raised its property tax rate.

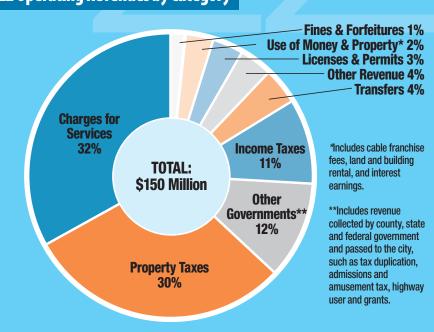
\$2.5 million ... reimbursed to Rockville by Montgomery County following a big win for county municipalities in March, helping secure money to return to incorporated towns and cities for property tax duplication. Reimbursements had been significantly underfunded for more than two decades.

American Rescue Plan Act Funding

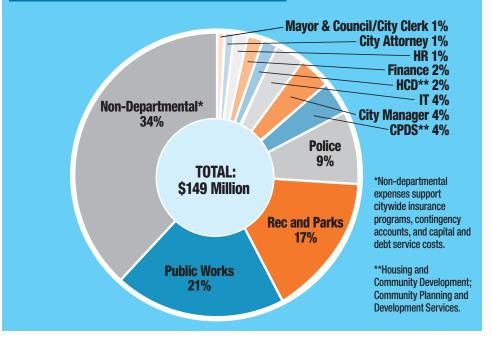
\$9.6 million ... received by Rockville from the federal American Rescue Plan Act. This involved several public discussions with the Mayor and Council and the formal allocation of \$7.6 million, approximately 80% of Rockville's allocation. The remaining \$2 million will be allocated during Fiscal Year 2023.

- \$1 million, delinquent water and sewer bill forgiveness.
- **\$1.4 million**, commercial water meter replacements.
- **\$750,000**, water treatment plant upgrades.
- \$530,000, water treatment plant safety improvements.
- \$300,000, water treatment plant security improvements.
- \$650,000, King Farm Farmstead sewer infrastructure.
- **\$450,000**, King Farm Farmstead electrical infrastructure.
- \$533,345, Gude Drive facility recycling transfer enclosure.
- \$900,000, maintenance and emergency operations facility improvements.
- \$100,000, Rockville Civic Center Americans with Disabilities Act sidewalk design.
- \$106,700, City Hall energy-efficient lighting.
- **\$30,500**, Rockville Swim and Fitness Center fall protection solutions.
- \$55,000, Stonestreet Corridor improvements.
- \$292,500, a two-year Bank On Rockville program, a new pilot program that helps low-income families build assets and better participate in the economy.
- \$58,250, water submeter for Rockville Housing Enterprises

FY 2022 Operating Revenues by Category



FY 2022 Expenditures by Department





Animal exhibits at Croydon Creek Nature Center were redesigned to give the animals updated exhibits with more natural looking environments, and the Discovery Room was revamped. Popular with thousands of visitors each year, updated exhibits allow patrons to learn more about their local environment and our native animal ambassadors.

ROCKVILLE IS... Keen About Green

232 ... The number of trash cans in city parks. An unprecedented increase in park visitors led to a sizable increase in the volume of trash, and the city worked hard to keep parks clean and



300 ... native trees were adopted by 126 residents through the annual Rockville Fall Tree Giveaway. Registration for the giveaway

filled up in just two days.

\$55,000 ... received \ in a grant from Maryland **Smart Energy Communities** program for the second phase of energy-efficiency upgrades at City Hall in Fiscal Year 2023.

4,861 square feet of conservation landscaping, five trees, five rain barrels and the replacement of 2,322 square feet of pavement with permeable pavers were made possible with rebates from the city's RainScapes Rebates program.



Contractors upgraded 235 interior light fixtures on the second floor of City Hall to energy-efficient LEDs to reduce costs. Funding for the project leveraged a \$35,000 grant from the Maryland

Energy Administration and a \$34,980 rebate from Pepco.

The Mayor and Council adopted Rockville's first Climate Action Plan in January. The plan charts an ambitious course for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50% below 2005 levels by 2030, and a goal of carbon neutrality by mid-century. The plan includes a list of 42 actions that are focused on equitably reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening resiliency and developing a framework to oversee and monitor flood progress. The Mayor and Council also adopted a resolution to support the city's conversion of its fleet to clean energy fuels.

The Maryland Energy Administration awarded Rockville a \$449,750 Streetlight and Outdoor Lighting and Efficiency grant to upgrade 1,799 city-owned streetlights to energy-efficient LED fixtures. The grant was awarded to implement the first phase of a three-phase streetlight upgrade project in Fiscal Year 2023.